

Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana

A Division of the



Comprehensive Community Plan

County: Jennings

LCC: Jennings County Drug & Alcohol Task Force

Date: August 2006



Contact: Jack Hatton

Address: 101 Madison Ave - North Vernon, IN 47265

City: North Vernon

Zip Code: 47265

Phone: 812-346-1466

Email: jhatton@nvdpd.org

County Commissioners:

Jenning County Board of County Commissioners

Address: Government Center

City: Vernon, IN

Zip Code: 47282

Plan Summary

Mission Statement:

The Jennings County Drug and Alcohol Task Force believes in equal opportunity for education and awareness in substance abuse prevention for all citizens to create a safe, drug-free community. This effort will be based upon a planned cooperative venture between this non-profit group, social agencies, law enforcement, schools and other community groups. The purpose of Jennings County Drug and Alcohol Task Force is:

- 1.) to inform, assist and advise the county commissioners of proposals which seek funds from the Drug-Free Communities Fund to address issues in the areas of substance abuse prevention, treatment and justice.
- 2.) to encourage alternative programs to substance abuse/addiction in Jennings County.
- 3.) to prepare an annual comprehensive plan for combating substance abuse in Jennings County.

History:

The Jennings County Drug and Alcohol Task Force was formed in May, 1988. The Task Force was created to make plans for Jennings County's first "Red Ribbon Week" for the Jennings County schools, and all of Jennings County. The Task Force established itself as a "local coordinating council" with the assistance of the Governor's Commission For A Drug-Free Indiana. The Task Force serves the geographic area of Jennings County, Indiana, in southcentral Indiana.

Each year, the Jennings County Task Force works to compile a comprehensive plan for substance abuse programs and services in the areas of prevention, treatment and justice. An update report is prepared annually to monitor progress towards the goals identified in the plan.

The Task Force works cooperatively with the County Commissioners to develop recommendations for funding grant proposals from organizations throughout the County. Each year the Task Force makes a presentation to the Commissioners regarding the allocation of the present years' funds, as well as following up on projects from the past year.

The Task Force has recently been through a major reorganization following the non-renewal of the previous coordinator's contract. These changes have been beneficial in allowing the group to move forward with an all-volunteer operation. Progress has been slow but steady as the group has adjusted its workload accordingly. The Task Force has

also gained new membership by combining efforts with the former Tobacco Coalition. We have worked to integrate the members and mission of the Tobacco Coalition in a way that will benefit the community.

This plan represents a new comprehensive community plan for the Task Force, as the old plan was difficult to support with current data and lacked clarity in some areas. This plan incorporates data that can be tracked from year to year to measure progress. The Task Force sees this plan as a pared down, workable road map for change. The plan includes both specific needs and general avenues for service improvements for the future. It is flexible enough to respond to emerging trends yet specific enough to address immediate needs.

Because this is a completely new plan, our progress for 2005 is reported below. This reserves the update sections in the current plan for next year's use.

PROGRESS IN 2005

Eleven public LCC meetings were held with the community invited to attend.

A forum on methamphetamine was held.

Lunch and learn events were held with guest speakers on various ATOD topics

Moms Off Meth support group is holding meetings for recovering women.

Tap and Teg program continued for students caught smoking

Prenatal tobacco prevention program continued.

The LCC made local grants to local police departments for equipment and programming needs.

4-H leadership program was funded.

Jennings County Alcohol and Drug Education program supported by the LCC and local grant funds.

Domestic Violence and Youth Center programs were supported through local grants.

LCC investigated reduction in fees collected and resolved accounting issues with the County Auditor.

Coordinator issues resolved and officers assumed work load to allow for greater progress in 2006.

Summary of the Comprehensive Community Plan:

The Jennings County Alcohol and Drug Task Force has reworked the annual comprehensive plan to clarify goals and include measurable benchmarks and supportive data. In doing this, significant changes in the comprehensive plan were made. We have combined and clarified problem statements and reduced the number of problem statements from five to three. We submit this as a first year plan and feel the plan accurately represents problems and priorities facing the Community.

In some cases we lack updated information to fully support the problems we have identified. Part of our comprehensive plan for the coming year is to improve data collection so that future updates include more supportive data and support measurable results. Our fiscal report is also attached.

A summary of our problems and goals is as follows:

Problem: A significant number of families and youth in Jennings County are at risk of dangerous and addictive abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

Goal: Our long term goal is to reduce the risk factors facing youth and families and provide protective factors within the community, thereby causing a reduction in substance abuse among youth and families

Problem: Law enforcement and justice organizations are under-resourced to deal with substance abuse issues within the County.

Goal: Increase the monetary, personnel and program resources of local law enforcement and justice organizations to allow greater response to substance abuse issues within the County.

Problem: Jennings County residents are dying and receiving injuries because of drivers under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

Goal: Reduce the number of impaired driving-related deaths and injuries in Jennings County.

Membership List

County LCC Name: Jennings County Alcohol and Drug Task Force

Name	Organization	Race	Gender	Category
Jack Hatton	NVPD	caucasian	male	Law enforcement
Lana Hughes	Probation	caucasian	female	justice
Susie Hatton	Workforce Dev.	caucasian	female	labor
Brenda Campbell	ISU	caucasian	female	education
Laurie Dickerson	JCHS	caucasian	female	education
Danny DeShong	Rescue 20	caucasian	male	medicine
Steve Cardinal	JCSD	caucasian	male	law enforcement
Mike Williams	Office of Families and Children	caucasian	male	social services
Barb King	NVPD	caucasian	female	law enforcement
Jan Tucker	Chamber	caucasian	female	business

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Problem Identification

Problem Statement #1: A significant number of families and youth in Jennings County are at risk of dangerous and addictive abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

Supportive Data:

- Indiana Youth Institute reports the following data on risk factors for Jennings County (Indiana data shown in parenthesis for comparison)
- Child abuse and neglect rate per 1000 children: 38.6% (13.5% for Indiana)

- Rate of non-compliance with youth tobacco access laws: 25% (19.1% for Indiana)
- Percentage of mothers smoking during pregnancy: 28.4% (18.5% for Indiana)
- Percentage of low birthweight babies: 6.7% (7.9% for Indiana)
- Percent of children in poverty, ages 0-17: 13.5% (13.7% for Indiana)
- Percent of students eligible for free lunches/textbooks: 26.8% (26.1 for Indiana)
- There were 700 hotline calls for domestic violence in Jennings County in 2005, making the County third in the State for per capita domestic violence reports.
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Year 1 Update:

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Year 2 Update:

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Final Update:

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Objectives:

- **Provide support for effective prevention programs in local schools and youth-serving organizations, including alternative activities, mentoring, classroom curricula and youth leadership efforts.**
- **Increase the leadership role and resources of the local coordinating council in community education related to substance abuse and resources to reduce substance abuse.**
- **Encourage the participation of local schools in the state survey of student substance use, so that local programming can be targetted more accurately.**
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- **Support and collaborate with social service and law enforcement agencies and programs dealing with child abuse. domestic abuse, juvenile delinquency, prenatal substance abuse, and other such supportive services, as these are related to substance abuse.**

- **Support and encourage youth development programs to offset risk factors encountered in the home and community.**
- **Support and encourage effective treatment for all citizens dealing with substance abuse disorders, including self-help, intensive treatment, and aftercare.**
- **Continue to provide a forum for collaboration and idea sharing on substance abuse reduction programs through the local coordinating council.**
- **Recruit additional key stakeholders to participate in the mission of the local coordinating council.**
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Year 2 Update:

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Final Update:

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Goals: Our long term goal is to reduce the risk factors facing youth and families and provide protective factors within the community, thereby causing a reduction in substance abuse among youth and families.

Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

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Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report:

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Problem Statement #2: Law enforcement and justice organizations are under-resourced to deal with substance abuse crimes and offenders within the County.

Supportive Data:

- Key informant survey- local law enforcement leaders report that they believe there are many meth labs in the county that go undetected, based on the amount of meth related trash found dumped in the County.
- There are currently no home detention or in-jail treatment programs operating within the County.
- Probation case loads
- Adult probation reports the following average case load for 2004 and 2005
- 2004 Misdemeanor- 345 Felony - 47
- 2005 Misdemeanor- 322 Felony - 28
- The Indiana State Police reported the following number of clandestine meth lab responses in Jennings County-
- Year 2001- 16; Year 2002- 14; Year 2003- 27; Year 2004- 34

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Year 2 Update:

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Final Update:

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Objectives:

- **Continue education and awareness programs to help retailers and citizens identify the risks associated with meth labs and reporting to law enforcement.**
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- **Support the probation department and justice system in adding needed staff and programming to expand alternatives to incarceration, including home detention and work release programs.**
- **Support the implementation of treatment/self help/recovery programs in the County jail**
- **Support and encourage the training, equipment and program needs of law enforcement and justice organizations in dealing with substance abuse issues.**
- **Collect data to more fully identify the extent of meth-related crimes and other substance abuse related crimes in Jennings County.**
- **Continue meth watch program and work to inform the community about issues related to meth production and use.**
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Final Update:

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Goals: Increase the monetary, personnel and program resources of local law enforcement and justice organizations to allow greater response to substance abuse issues within the County.

Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

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Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report:

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Problem Statement #3: Jennings County residents are dying and receiving injuries because of drivers under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

Supportive Data:

- The North Vernon Police Department reported 81 drunk driving arrests for 2004 and 74 drunk driving arrests for 2005.
- The Jennings County Sheriff's Department reported 78 drunk driving arrests for 2004 and 68 drunk driving arrests for 2005.
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Objectives:

- **Support law enforcement programs and justice programs that address drunk and drugged driving reduction.**
- **Increase the leadership role of the local coordinating council in community education related to impaired driving.**
- **Support youth leadership programs that address impaired driving and healthy lifestyles.**
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Goals: Reduce the number of impaired driving-related deaths and injuries in Jennings County

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Problem Statement #4:

Supportive Data:

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Problem Statement #5:

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Goals:

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Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Problem Statement #8:

Supportive Data:

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Goals:

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Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report:

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Please attach the County's Fiscal Report for review!

Next Annual Update Due:

Next Comprehensive Community Plan Due:

Date of Community Consultant Review:

Disclaimer:

You agree that the information provided within this Plan is subject to the following Terms and Conditions. These Terms and Conditions may be modified at any time and from time to time; the date of the most recent changes or revisions will be established by the Commission and sent electronically to all Local Coordinating Councils.

Terms and Conditions:

The information and data provided is presented as factual and accurate. I hereby acknowledge that I can be asked to submit proper documentation regarding the data submitted within the Plan. Failure to do so could result in a "denied approval" by the Commission under IC 5-2-6-16.

The Local Drug Free Communities Fund must be spent according to the goals identified within the plan. I hereby acknowledge that I can be asked to submit proper documentation regarding funds that are collected, allocated, and disbursed within the county. Failure to do so could result in a "denied approval" by the Commission under IC 5-2-6-16.

Initials:

Jennings County Alcohol and Drug Task Force
Local grant recommendations- Jennings County Drug-Free Community Fund
February 2006

Organization/Program	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Jennings Co. Domestic Violence- Education Program	\$5,000	\$4,850
Drug and Alcohol Task Force <u>LCC Administrative expenses</u>	\$4,500	\$1,200
North Vernon Police Department Special enforcement programs	\$4,000	\$3,850
Family Connections Prenatal Sub. Abuse Prevention	\$2,000	\$1,850
JC 4-H Youth Development Youth Leadership Development Programs	\$1,400	\$1,250
JC Sheriff's Department Meth enforcement and education	\$1,800	\$1,650
Tobacco Coalition Cessation program	\$1,000	\$500
JC Alcohol and Drug Program Prime for Life Intervention program	\$4,000	\$3,850
St. Vincent Hospital Smoke Free Day at the Fair	\$2,500	-0-
Totals	\$26,200	\$19,000
 Total Collected 2005		
Co. Drug Free Community Fund	\$24,831	
Balance forward 1/1/2005		
(Unused from previous year)	\$23,063	

Grant process

The coalition requests grant proposals annually from members of the coalition and community. The grant proposals address the needs from the comprehensive plan in the areas of prevention, treatment and law enforcement. The coalition reviews and recommends projects to the County Commissioners and County Council. The County Auditor disburses funds to the local grantees. Projects are carried out within a one-year time frame.

In April, 2006 the LCC Treasurer discovered that the County Auditor has been maintaining two separate accounts for the Drug-Free Communities Fund. The reason for this is unclear, and the Auditor has declined to combine the two accounts into one. The method for deciding what monies are deposited in each fund is also unclear, and the Auditor has declined to explain these issues to the LCC. The County Commissioners and County Council have been reluctant to intervene with the Auditor's office in the matter.

As a result, the LCC undertook a second round of project funding in July of 2006 to make use of the previously unknown funds, which amounted to 46,678.00. This fund had been untouched for a period of two years. This explained the precipitous drop in funds seen in the Auditor's fund number 044 titled "Drug Free Program".

The projects funded as a result of this grant process are as follows:

Local grant recommendations- Jennings County Drug-Free Community Fund July 2006

Organization/Program	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Interfaith Vol. Caregivers Food Distribution and Personal Hygiene	3,000	2,788
The Salvation Army Emergency Assistance	4,000	4,000
JC Elementary Counselors Red Ribbon Week Activities	3,152	3,152
JC Extension Office Project Lead	1,677	1,677
Hasty Pudding Puppets Preschool and Elementary Prevention	2,560	2,560

JC Drug and Alcohol Task Force		
<i>LCC Administrative Expenses</i>	5,000	5,000
JC United Way	4,000	3,800
Youth Leadership activities		
JC Domestic Violence	6,000	5,550
Drug and Alcohol Prevention for Victims		
Family Connections		
Prenatal Substance Use Prevention	4,000	4,000
JC Extension Office	2,667	2,667
High School and Middle School Convocation		
JC Drug and Alcohol Program		
Juvenile and Adult education and intervention	6,000	5,550
North Vernon PD		
Impaired driver and drug enforcement	4,800	4,800